

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
Los Angeles County
12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA 90650

From: Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
27234 Bouquet Canyon Road
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

To: County Clerk and Recorder
Ventura County
800 S. Victoria Ave, Location #1260
Ventura, CA 93009

Project Title: Temperature Probe and Piezometer Field Installation and Data Collection

Location -- Specific: Parcel numbers 2866-007-907, 2811-065-900 and 2811-065-904

Location -- Counties: Los Angeles County

Description of Activity: Installation of 2 temporary piezometers and 3 temperature probes within shallow alluvial deposits of the upper Santa Clara River and the placement of 2 temperature probes placed in the river channel to monitor surface water temperature.

The temporary piezometers will be drilled and installed to a depth of approximately 25 feet (depending on location) using a truck mounted hollow stem auger. The piezometers will be located outside of the main river channel, approximately 25-50 feet from the channel. Vegetation along the river channel will not be disturbed. Three of the temporary temperature probes will be installed within the alluvium within 10-25 feet of the active river channel. These probes will be installed to a depth of up to 10 feet within a two-inch diameter protective PVC pipe using a track mounted direct push method, or hand auger. The direct push method involves use of a 3-inch diameter steel tube with removable point that is pushed into the ground. The hand auger is a manually advanced boring tool. Additionally, two temperature probes will be installed in the hyporheic zone sediments of the river bottom, as access allows at selected locations to allow monitoring of river temperature. We anticipate placing the probes just below the bottom of the channel and extending the buried cord to the riverbank at a marked location where it will be connected to a data logger. Although, it is understood that these probes may be subject to loss, no scour or erosion is anticipated beyond what naturally occurs during high flow events. Vegetation within the riparian area along the river channel will not be disturbed.

The probes will be monitored monthly during the dry season and quarterly during other times of the year for up to 18 months by entering the sites on foot. Temperature data will be correlated with river flow and groundwater levels and temperature.

Name of Public Agencies Approving or Carrying Out Activity: Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (Lead Agency).

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Declared Emergency
- Emergency Project
- Categorical Exemption.** CEQA Guidelines Section 15306 Information Collection
- Statutory Exemption.

Temperature Probe and Piezometer Field Installation and Data Collection

Reasons why activity is exempt:

The project, aka the whole of the action, qualifies for an exemption under Class 6 Information Collection because it consists of basic data collection, research and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource

None of the exceptions listed in Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines would apply to the action.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Rick Vasilopoulos **Telephone:** (661) 705-7912

Signature:  **Title:** Water Resources Planner **Date:** 9/14/21

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing by County Clerk:
